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	APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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		ECHNOLOGIES, INC.	JOHNSTON, PHILLIP A		
	Legal Department, DL429 Intellectual Property Administration P.O. 7599			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
				2881	
	Loveland, CO	80537-0599		DATE MAILED: 10/19/2004	4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Applicant(s)								
## Examiner ## Phillip A Johnston 2881 ## The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. **Examiner of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.138(s). In on event, however, may a reply be timely filled. **If the period from year year is best with thirty (30) says, a reply which he statutory mirror thing (30) says will be considered timely. **If Depriod for raply is aceitated subces, the readshirm statutory period will apply and will expire SK (8) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Any reply research by the Official forms them them from this after the mailing date of this communication. See a 7 CFR 1.704(s). **Status** 1) □ Responsive to communication(s) filled on 25 Merch 2004. 2a □ This action is FINAL. 2b □ This action is FINAL. 2c This action is FINAL. 2c This action is FINAL. 2b □ This action is FINAL. 2c This action is FINAL. 2b □ This action is FINAL. 2c This action is replication. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 4a) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 5b □ Claim(s) is/are objected to the third this action is non-infal. 3c □ Claim(s) is/are objected to by the Examiner. 10 □ The period of this communication is required if the drawing(s) is objected to by the Examiner. Application Papers 9c □ The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10 □ The drawing(s) filled on 25 Merch 2004 Is/are: a) □ accepted or bc objected to by the Examiner. 10 □ The cath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.	·	Application No.	Applicant(s)					
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Art Unit: 2881

Detailed Action

1. This Office Action is submitted in response to Amendment dated 3-25-2004, wherein claims 2,4,6,11,14, and 17 are cancelled and claims 1,3,5,10-13,15,16, and 18 have been amended. Claims 1,3,5,7-10,12,13,15,16,18, and 19 are pending.

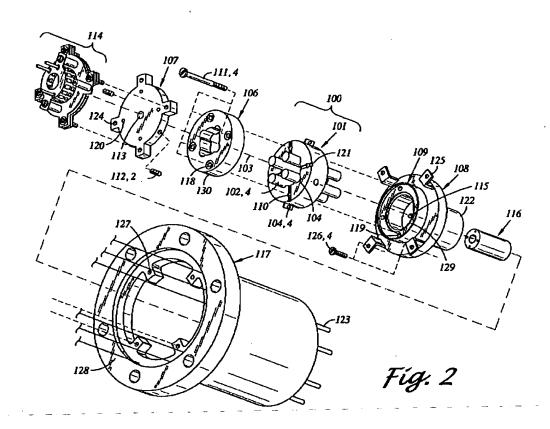
Claims Rejection – 35 U.S.C. 103

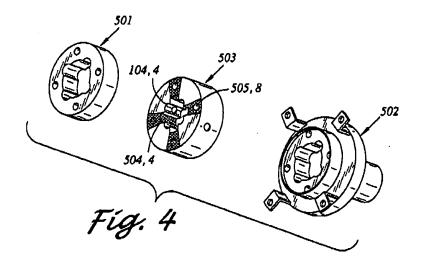
- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 3. Claims 1,3,5,7-10,12,13,15,16,18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,239,429 to Blessing, in view of Holkeboer, U.S. Patent No. 5,852,270.

Blessing (429) discloses a quadrupole mass spectrometer and assembly method that is equipped with the following;

(a) Plural electrodes extending parallel along the longitudinal axis, fixed to a holder, and plural rigid insulating supports, as recited in claims 1,3,5,10, and 13. See Column 9, line 25-42; and Figure 4 below;

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(b) Metalization of the retainer block and "firing" the metal into the ceramic material to provide an electrically conductive holder, and electrical connectivity for the electrodes, equivalent to that recited in claims 1,3,5,10, 13, and 16. See Column 9, line 39-42; (c) Locating the four electrodes at 90° intervals relative to an axis along the holder's central aperture, as recited in claims 7-9, and 19. See Column 4, line 34-44.

Blessing (429) as applied above fails to teach the use of a holder machined of electrically conductive material, as recited in claims 12,15, and 18. Holkeboer (270); however, discloses a miniature quadrupole machined from a single metal blank using the EDM process. See Column 2, line 65-67; and Column 3, line 1-14.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the quadrupole apparatus and method of Blessing (429) can be modified to use the machining method of Holkeboer (270), to provide a method of machining a quadrupole, thereby providing insulated support and rigidity for the completed electrode structure of the quadrupole.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Phillip Johnston whose telephone number is (571) 272-2475. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiners supervisor John Lee

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can be reached at (571) 272-2477. The fax phone number for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned is 703 872 9306.

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ΡJ

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